THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Government has sanctioned installation of Second Sandzimir Mill at Salem Steel Plant on 2nd March, 1988. The Second mill will enable utilisation of a dormant investment of about Rs. 75 crores.

(c) There would be additional production of 38,000 tonnes of stainless steel sheets/coils.

Development of Meerut as a Priority Town of NCR

2599. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) when the decision to develop Meerut district headquarters in Uttar Pradesh, as a priority town of the National Capital Region, with the purpose of reducing inflow of migrants to Delhi, was taken by the National Capital Region Planning Board;

(b) what is the respective share of the Central Government and the Uttar Pradesh Government for the development of this priority town and what is the actual/amount of financial assistance released by the Central Government and the U.P. Government, so far;

(c) by when the scheme is likely to be implemented in view of the progress made so far in this direction; and

(d) what steps are contemplated by Government to accelerate implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The decision to develop Meerut as a priority town of the National Capital Region was taken in August, 1986 in the Interim Development Plan of the NCR Planning Board.

(b) Since the Board came into existence in 1985 an amount of Rs. 3.5 cr. was released by the NCR Planning Board for the projects in Meerut during 1985-86 and 1986-87. The corresponding amount released by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh is being collected from the State Government and will be placed on the Table of the House on receipt.

(c) and (d) The on-going projects are expected to be implemented by the end of the Seventh Plan.

Amendment to Pulses, Edible oils and Edible oilseeds (Storage and Control) Order

2600. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of recent amendments made to the Pulses, Edible Oils and Edible Oilseeds (Storage and Control) Order regarding reduction of stock limits and imposition of restrictions will be detrimental to consumers' interests as it will ultimately lead to shortages;

(b) whether Government are aware that the needs of the consumers can be met and price rise checked effectively only by augmenting supplies in the market; and

(c) what were the compelling circumstances for Government to impose such restrictions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) to (c) In the wake of the drought situation and because of low stocks of pulses and edible oils, certain amendments to the Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) Order, 1977 were introduced to prevent hoarding of these commodities through imposing (i) restriction on transactions between the wholesalers; (ii) time limit for disposal of stocks by wholesalers; and (iii) reducing the stock limits of pulses to be held by wholesalers and retailers.